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Bengaluru sisters are world's youngest certified scuba divers

A day after turning 10, Bengaluru-based **Ovee Malve** *(centre)* set a world record of becoming the youngest certified scuba diver. With this, both Ovee and her sister Ruchi, daughters of Bangalore Mountaineering Club founder Neeraj Malve, have become the youngest certified scuba diver siblings in the world. Neeraj himself has been a scuba diver for 16 years now. P2

A TIMELESS WEAVE FOR TRANQUIL DEVOTION.

RAMRAJ COTTON

DEVOTIONAL DHOTIS

AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING TEXTILE SHOPS

Tunnel roads

... will work as a disincentive for people to use public transport, say experts. Such facilities will attract the public to bring out their personal vehicles

(The concluding part of the 3-part series) | P2

WITH THIS ISSUE

THE INFLUENCE OF DE-INFLUENCERS

PLUS 12 PAGES MAGAZINE

Palestinians fleeing from northern Gaza to the south with their belongings after the Israeli evacuation order | AP

Clock ticks for ground offensive, exodus on

● 1 MN DISPLACED IN GAZA, SAYS U.N. ● BRUTALITY OF ATTACK MADE QAEDA LOOK PURE: BIDEN ● KHAMEINI BACKS HAMAS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE exodus of Palestinians from north Gaza continued for the second consecutive day on Saturday with thousands of people scrambling to evacuate the region ahead of the start of Israel's ground offensive, a week after Hamas militants invaded Israel and killed over 1,300 people. The evacuation order covered more than 11 lakh people. It is not clear how many have moved south. "What we know is that hundreds of thousands of people have fled. And that 1 million people have been displaced in total in one week," a UN official said.

Evacuating under such a tight deadline is proving to be a challenge for many. "We need a number for drivers from (north) Gaza to the south, it is necessary #help," read a social media plea for help. The UN warned that many, especially pregnant women, the elderly, and sick people may not be able to evacuate before the start of the Israeli ground offensive.

Palestinians wounded in Israeli air strikes on Gaza arrive at a hospital | AP

Tens of thousands of Israeli soldiers along with tanks and other military hardware are already on the Gaza border.

Two senior Hamas commanders, who were involved in Saturday's attacks on Israel, were killed in overnight Israeli drone attacks on Gaza, *The Times of Israel* reported. Israeli strikes on Gaza have killed at least 2,215 people so far, including 724 children, the Gaza health ministry said.

In a statement that was read as the US green light for Israel's ground offensive, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said, "As Israel pursues its legitimate right, to defend its people and to try to ensure that this never happens again, it is vitally important that all of us look out for civilians."

President Joe Biden said Hamas' brutality on Israelis makes Al Qaeda "look pure". "Like I said from the beginning, the US, makes no mistake about it, stands with Israel," he said. The supreme leader of Iran said Palestinians will emerge victorious. Ayatollah Ali Khameini called the Hamas attack on Israel "a symbol of the power of Islam". P9, P12

Dues will be cleared soon, Siddu tells contractors

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah assured a delegation of Karnataka State Contractors' Association on Saturday that a part of their dues would be released in three to four days, ahead of the 'Ayudha Pooja' that falls on October 23, said Association president D Kempanna.

Kempanna and Association office-bearers on Friday had set a 30-day deadline to the government to release 50 per cent of their dues that run to Rs 20,000 crore. They had threatened to launch a statewide agitation if the government failed to do so.

With the chief minister meeting the contractors and taking them into confidence, the conflict between the contractors and the government is likely to ebb. Recently, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, who is also Bengaluru development minister, had ensured that dues of Rs 652 crore are released to contractors.

"The CM promised us that the maximum possible amount that is due to us would be released in three to four days and the rest in a phased manner in a year as the state's financial situation is bad," Kempanna said after the meeting. P5

PAK-ING A PUNCH

India captain Rohit Sharma's 63-ball 86 and Shreyas Iyer's unbeaten 53 helped India win its ICC Cricket World Cup match against Pakistan by 7 wickets | AP P11

Straight from Modi, India serious about hosting '36 Oly

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Chennai

THERE were multiple indications earlier about India's inclination to enter the race to host the Olympic Games in 2036. But it was officially pitched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the Opening Ceremony of the 141st IOC Session at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai on Saturday.

The PM said that India will bid for the 2036 Olympic Games and would leave no stone unturned to host a successful Games. He said because of the rapidly rising economy and well developed infrastructure, the country is now ready to host big global events.

"The world has seen this during the G20 summit," he said. "We have organised events over 60 cities and towns. From logistics to everything else, this was the reflection on India's organisational capacity." He also cited examples of hosting international events like the Chess Olympiad, U-17 women's World Cup, women's boxing world championships, shooting World Cup successfully.

"This is the dream of 140 crore Indians. We would want to fulfill this dream with the support of you (IOC)," he said.

And not just the Olympics in 2036, he said India will be hosting the 2029 Youth Olympics.

"Sports is not just a way to win medals but also hearts," the PM added.

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
Department of Information and Public Relations
Symbol of a Glorious Tradition and Culture
Nada Habba
Mysuru Dasara
MYSURU DASARA
Celebration Since 1610 AD
Inauguration Programme
Date: 15.10.2023 Time: 10.15 AM to 10.36 AM
Venue: Chamundi Hills
Inauguration by
Nadabrahma Sri Hamsalekha
Renowned Cinema lyricist
and Music Director
413th Mysore Dasara Festival this year
Various religious – cultural activities like
Nandidwaja Puja, Ayudha Puja, Banni Tree Puja
The Palace City decorated with electric lights
Exhilarating Wrestling – Fights
Entertaing Youth Dasara, Farmer Dasara, Women Dasara
Enthralling and Colourful Jamboo Savari
Come, let us together celebrate our
Nada Habba Dasara with gaiety and pomp.
As is enshrined in our Constitution, to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture; is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.
karnataka information